

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 065308

R 301346Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6869
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12800

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS ET UK
SUBJ: KIDNAPPING OF BRITISH HONORARY CONSUL IN ASMARA

REF: ADDIS 12669; ADDIS 12756 (NOTAL)

1. BRITISH CHARGE OCT 29 AND 30 TOLD US THAT BRITISH AMB IN JIDDA HAS NOW BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE QUIETLY MATTER OF KIDNAPPED HONORARY CONSUL WITH SAUDIS TO SEE IF SAUDIS CAN HELP DETERMINE HIS WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS THROUGH ELF/PLF CONTACTS. HE SAID FURTHER THAT BRITISH AMB IN KHARTOUM HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE KIDNAPPING WITH SUDANESE AT HIS DISCRETION, BUT THUS FAR HAS REFRAINED HERE. CHARGE, HOWEVER, HAS IMPRESSION THAT HMG, IN LIGHT SUDANESE HELP TO US WITH PLF (KHARTOUM 2516, SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WE RELATED TO BRITISH OCT 29), WILL BE INSISTING (OR HAS ALREADY DONE SO) THAT THEIR AMB IN KHARTOUM PROCEED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH SUDANESE IN HOPES SUDANESE WILL PROVIDE SIMILAR HELP WITH REGARD THEIR CONSUL. WE ONCE AGAIN SAID WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF BRITISH AMB IN KHARTOUM GOT IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH AMB BREWER.

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2. ADDIS 12669 INADVERTENTLY OMITTED MENTION OF SYRIA, BUT WE DID TELL BRITS IN GENERAL WAY OF OUR CONTACT WITH SYRIANS IN OUR FIRST RUNDOWN WITH THEM. DEPT ACCORDINGLY MAY WISH REPEAT STATE 253190 TO DAMASCUS.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER INFO WE ARE RECEIVING FROM BRITISH EMB HERE IS NEWS TO ADDRESSEES OR NOT. WE WILL CONTINUE REPORT WHAT WE HEAR, BUT FEAR THAT BRITISH EMB MAY NOT KNOW ALL DETAILS AND/OR NUANCES OF WHAT BRITISH ARE DOING ELSEWHERE. WE THEREFORE WOULD PREFER THAT WE NOT FUNCTION AS PRINCIPAL CHANNEL FOR EXCHANGE OF INFO WITH BRITISH, AND SUGGEST DEPT MAKE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS, PRESUMABLY IN WASHINGTON OR LONDON.
HUMMEL

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